

REMARKS

Obviousness Rejection

On page 2 of the Office Action, in paragraph 2, claims 42-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki (US 6,191,184) in view of Nishioka (US 6,653,769) and Sato (US 5,294,516).

In response to this rejection, Applicants note initially that Nishioka discloses that its spacers are formed of a sintered product of a structure in which at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Si, Zn, Al, Sn, Cu and Mg is dispersed in a glass (col. 6, lines 18-22).

Nishioka goes on to disclose that the sintered product constituting the spacers may further contain a ceramic filler, which works to lower the firing temperature, control the coefficient of thermal expansion of the sintered product and to impart a color, and further works to adjust the distorting point of the glass so that the spacer will not be deformed during firing (col. 7, lines 36-44).

Since Nishioka relates to spacers that are formed of a sintered product of a structure in which at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Si, Zn, Al, Sn, Cu and Mg is dispersed in a glass, and since Nishioka's filler is directed to affecting properties in connection with sintering, Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been motivated to add Nishioka's filler to a photosensitive resin composition, which is a significantly different composition from that in Nishioka and which is not sintered and thus would not have properties associated with sintering to be affected by a filler.

Thus, Applicants submit that one of ordinary skill in the art would not have used filler amount teachings from Nishioka in Suzuki to arrive at the extender amount aspect of the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the present invention is not obvious over the cited art, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

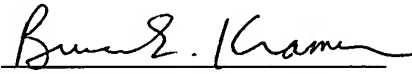
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER


Bruce E. Kramer
Registration No. 33,725

Date: September 27, 2006